CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA
DECEMBER 7, 2021 - CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Pro Tem Waterfield called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:
MEMBERS PRESENT:
Councilmembers Cordero, Escobedo, and Mayor Pro Tem Waterfield.

Councilmember Soto and Mayor Patino arrived after roll call at 5:04 p.m.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:
City Manager Stilwell, City Attorney Watson, and Chief Deputy City Clerk White (for roll call only).

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
There were no requests to speak.

RECESS - CLOSED SESSION
Mayor Pro Tem Waterfield recessed to a Closed Session at 5:03 p.m. for a conference with Labor Negotiators pursuant to Section 54957.6 of the Government Code. Agency Representatives: City Manager Jason Stilwell; Employee Organizations: All bargaining units, unrepresented employees, managers, and executives.

INVOCATION
Bishop Josh Parker from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints gave the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Councilmember Soto led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Patino reconvened the meeting and called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

ROLL CALL:
MEMBERS PRESENT:
Mayor Alice Patino, Councilmember Mike Cordero, Councilmember Carlos Escobedo, Councilmember Gloria Soto, and Councilmember Etta Waterfield

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:
City Manager Jason Stilwell, City Attorney Thomas Watson, Transit Services Manager Gamaliel Anguiano, Assistant City Manager Andrew Hackleman, City Librarian Mary Housel, Chief Human Resources Officer Linda Le, Chief Information Officer Jeffrey Marecic, Director of Public Works/City Engineer Kevin McCune, Director of Community Development Chuen Ng, Accounting Manager Rico Pardo, Director of Recreation & Parks Alex Posada, Chief of Police Marc Schneider, Director of Utilities Shad Springer, Fire Chief Todd Tuggle, Chief Deputy City Clerk Rhonda White, and Deputy City Clerk Beth Cleary

CLOSED SESSION REPORT: CITY ATTORNEY
City Attorney Watson announced that instruction was provided to the Labor Negotiator related to the Closed Session item.

1 COMMENDATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

A. Councilmember Waterfield presented a Retirement Resolution to Fire Engineer, Victor Gutierrez.

Action: Adopt a Resolution commending Fire Engineer Victor Gutierrez for his 30 years of dedicated service to the City of Santa Maria and congratulating him on his retirement. ***Moved by Councilmember Waterfield, seconded by Councilmember Cordero. Motion carried. Adopted as Resolution No. 2021-130. 5-0.***

B. **BUSINESSES OF THE MONTH.** Chamber of Commerce CEO, Glenn Morris, and Councilmember Cordero presented certificates to the featured Businesses of the Month for December 2021 - Mob Armor (heavy-duty mounting solutions) and The VegBoss (produce growers and distributors). Trevor Orrick and Kim Cordova accepted the certificates, respectively.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
Written communication was received from SBCAN supporting a Rent Control Stabilization Ordinance for mobile homeowners and requested the City Council add the item to a future agenda.

Bruce Stanton, Gary Hall, Lisa Casillas-Siemsen, Jackie Jones, Eileen Armijo, Esther Jensen, and Stephen Siemsen spoke in favor of a rent stabilization ordinance and asked that the item be placed on a future agenda for discussion.

Ed Zoost spoke in favor of Item 5A, the Santa Maria Short Range Transit Plan, saying it would improve riders' experiences and help facilitate the use of transfers.

3 CONSENT CALENDAR

Consent Calendar Items 3A-3K were approved as presented, including the adoption of Resolution Nos. 2021-131, 2021-132, 2021-133, 2021-134, 2021-135, and 2021-136. The recorded vote appears with each item below.

Councilmember Escobedo indicated that he would abstain from voting on the Consent Calendar as he did not attend the last Council meeting.

A. Waive the reading in full of all Ordinances and Resolutions. Ordinances on the Consent Agenda will be adopted by the same vote cast at the first meeting, unless City Council indicates otherwise.

Action: Readings waived.
Moved by Councilmember Cordero, seconded by Councilmember Waterfield.
Motion carried. Abstain: Councilmember Escobedo; 4-0-1.

B. Approve the Minutes of the regular City Council meeting of November 16, 2021.

Action: Minutes adopted as presented.
Moved by Councilmember Cordero, seconded by Councilmember Waterfield.
Motion carried. Abstain: Councilmember Escobedo; 4-0-1.

C. Adopt a Resolution directing that meetings of the City Council and City Boards, Commissions, and Committees may be conducted partially or completely remotely by using a combination of in-person/virtual (hybrid) platforms as authorized by Government Code § 54953(e)(1)(A) to promote social distancing, prioritize the Public's Health and Wellbeing under Santa Barbara County Health Officer Orders, and provide flexibility as needed to facilitate continuity of government.

Action: Meetings for partial or complete remote or combination of in-person/virtual (hybrid) platforms were approved.
Moved by Councilmember Cordero, seconded by Councilmember Waterfield.
Motion carried. Adopted as Resolution No. 2021-131. Abstain: Councilmember Escobedo; 4-0-1.

D. Adopt a Resolution abolishing the Management Analyst Classification, establishing the City of Santa Maria Business Program Leader Classification, and approving the corresponding job specification.

Action: Management Analyst classification was authorized to be abolished, and the Business/Program Leader classification was established.
Moved by Councilmember Cordero, seconded by Councilmember Waterfield.
Motion carried. Adopted as Resolution No. 2021-132. Abstain: Councilmember Escobedo; 4-0-1.

E. Adopt a Resolution approving the updated City of Santa Maria salary schematic.

Action: Salary schematic was approved as submitted.
Moved by Councilmember Cordero, seconded by Councilmember Waterfield.
Motion carried. Adopted as Resolution No. 2021-133. Abstain: Councilmember Escobedo; 4-0-1.

F. Accept as complete the installation of street trees associated with Preisker Commercial Center, Tract 6003 and authorize the release of a Faithful Performance Bond [#1001070005] in the amount of $7,750 posted in the form of a surety to guarantee the installation of 31 street and easement trees, including the cost of maintenance for one year.

Action: Street trees were accepted, and authorization was granted to release the Faithful Performance Bond.
Moved by Councilmember Cordero, seconded by Councilmember Waterfield.
Motion carried. Abstain: Councilmember Escobedo; 4-0-1.

G. Adopt a Resolution approving the substantial amendment of the Annual Action Plan for the 2019-20 Fiscal Year to re-allocate COVID-19-related Federal funds under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV) program.

Action: Substantial amendment was approved for the 2019-2020 Community Development Block Grants Annual Action Plan.
Moved by Councilmember Cordero, seconded by Councilmember Waterfield.

Motion carried. Adopted as Resolution No. 2021-134. Abstain: Councilmember Escobedo; 4-0-1.

H. Payment of Warrants. Ordered ratified subject to having been certified as being in conformity with the budget and having been approved for payment by the Director of Finance.

Action: Warrants ratified.
Moved by Councilmember Cordero, seconded by Councilmember Waterfield.
Motion carried. Abstain: Councilmember Escobedo; 4-0-1.

I. Payment of Payroll. Ordered ratified subject to having been certified by the proper Department Directors, as shown on records on file in the Department of Finance, and having been approved for payment by the Director of Finance.

Action: Payroll ratified.
Moved by Councilmember Cordero, seconded by Councilmember Waterfield.
Motion carried. Abstain: Councilmember Escobedo; 4-0-1.

J. Adopt a Resolution to authorize the rebranding of the City of Santa Maria's public transit system from Santa Maria Area Transit (SMAT) to Santa Maria Regional Transit (SMRT).

Action: Rebranding of the public transit system was approved.
Moved by Councilmember Cordero, seconded by Councilmember Waterfield.
Motion carried. Adopted as Resolution No. 2021-135. Abstain: Councilmember Escobedo; 4-0-1.

K. Adopt a Resolution approving the submittal of a grant application with the State Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) for up to $811,705.25 to fund the completion of an Urban Forestry Management Plan, and plant 700 trees.

Action: Grant application to CalFire was approved.
Moved by Councilmember Cordero, seconded by Councilmember Waterfield.
Motion carried. Adopted as Resolution No. 2021-136. Abstain: Councilmember Escobedo; 4-0-1.

4 PRESENTATION

A. The City Council received a presentation from Paul Conor of Conor Consulting on the Santa Maria Police Department's multi-year strategic plan. Police Chief Schneider fielded questions from the City Council on the strategic plan.

Action: Santa Maria Police Department multi-year strategic plan was received.

5 REGULAR BUSINESS

A. **SANTA MARIA TRANSIT SHORT RANGE TRANSIT PLAN.** The City Council considered approving the Santa Maria Transit Short Range Transit Plan, Addendum #4 Route and Fare Change, recommendations for 2022. Director of Public Works McCune and Transit Services Manager Anguiano gave a presentation as detailed in the Council Agenda Report.

Public input
Written correspondence was received from Ryan Sullivan on behalf of the Sheriff's Office in favor of the item and encouraging the City Council to support additional transit service to the Northern Branch Jail Facility on Black Road.

Action: Adopt a Resolution approving the Santa Maria Transit Short Range Transit Plan, Addendum #4 Route and Fare Change, recommendations for 2022.
Moved by Councilmember Cordero, seconded by Councilmember Soto.
Motion carried. Adopted as Resolution No. 2021-137. 5-0.

REPORT BY CITY MANAGER

City Manager Stilwell introduced new Chief Human Resources Officer Linda Le and reported that the next regular City Council meeting would be December 21, 2021. Items on the agenda would include the Growth Mitigation Annual Report, the Fire Inspection Annual Report, and the annual appointment of Mayor Pro Tem.

ORAL REPORTS OF COUNCILMEMBERS AND OFFICERS (INCLUDING AB1234 REPORTS)

Councilmembers Soto and Waterfield had no reportable items.

Councilmember Escobedo reported that he attended the Community Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony and the Día de Campesino (Day of the Farmworker) Celebration.

Councilmember Cordero reported that he attended a meeting regarding the County of Santa Barbara redistricting boundaries based on the census; an EconAlliance meeting on technology and its advancements; and Community Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony.

Mayor Patino reported that she attended the Law Enforcement Torch Run; a County Redistricting Meeting; an input session for the Santa Maria-Bonita School District Superintendent search; a Mayors and City Manager's Meeting; the Community Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony; and the Freedom Monument Ceremony.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the City Council, Mayor Patino declared the City Council meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Approved at a regular meeting on December 21, 2021.

Rhonda M. White, CMC
Chief Deputy City Clerk and ex officio Clerk
of the City Council

ATTEST:

12/28/2021

Rhonda M. White, CMC
Chief Deputy City Clerk

Alice M. Patino

Alice M. Patino
Mayor of the City of Santa Maria